



The Steeple

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
210 SE Ninth St., Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003
www.episcopalbartlesville.org

Volume XXI, Number 4

January 25, 2017



**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO ATTEND A RETIREMENT RECEPTION
FOR**

Fr. Lee Stephens

**Celebrating 20 years of exemplary service to
St. Luke's Episcopal Church and the Bartlesville Community
Saturday, January 28, 2017**

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

with a short program at 3:00 p.m.

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church Metcalf Hall
210 SE 9th St., Bartlesville, OK**

**Kindly RSVP to Ann Bell at annbell@episcopalbartlesville.org
or 918-336-1212 by January 25.**



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Important Dates To Remember

Retirement Reception for Fr. Lee Stephens, Saturday, January 28, 2-5pm
Annual Mtg. & All Parish Potluck, Sun., Feb. 5, 12pm, Metcalf Hall
"Souper" Bowl Sunday, Feb. 5, YD collect food for CONCERN Food Pantry (see pg. 2)



**PLEASE MAKE THE
FOLLOWING CHANGE in
your email address
books for Fr. Sean
Ekberg. His email
address is now
seanekberg@gmail.com.**

Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 5, 12:30pm

Our Annual Meeting is **Sunday, February 5** at 12:30pm (preceded by an All-Parish Potluck at 12noon) in Metcalf Hall. The Annual Meeting serves as a time of reflection on the past year and also a time to review the 2016 Annual Report and focus on our goals for 2017. We will be voting for our candidates for Diocesan Convention Delegates and the Nominating Committee. Everyone in the parish is urged to attend.

From the Rector...



The “lasts” are coming in a fast and furious way now. My empty office has gone from bare to lonely to desolate – as described by the staff. I am actually glad that is all done and not left for a last week scramble. This has allowed me to focus on people – people I love and will always cherish – more than memories – they/you are a part of me.

One of the last things I discovered in one of my closets is a picture of the Acolytes in 1997 – I may show it to my Youngest Friends on Sunday. The picture includes young people like Jeff Mueggengborg, Becky Clark, Claire Rickards and a bunch more. Most of them are married now and I know that several of them have children – I know because I have baptized their children. And, the cycle goes on.

I thought about that on Sunday when my Youngest Friends came to my office after the service to pick out one of my crosses to take home. I loved sitting there on my sofa watching them. Some chose quickly and others had to ponder the possibilities. Then I gave them and their new cross a blessing. From what I am told they were delighted with their crosses. They have no idea how they blessed me and how I delighted in them – a new generation coming on.

How appropriate that the Gospel had Jesus calling his disciples to follow him. I hope and pray that our children are even now starting to know what that means for them – parents too – and friends of all ages. Fr. Sean was more than kind in his comments about me on Sunday – very humbling. I have been privileged to live my calling as a priest, in my “previous life” and in Episcopal life, but especially with the people of St. Luke’s. We have been living our “calling” together and the journey has grown richer with each passing year.

What Fr. Sean said about Lynda is absolutely true. She is an amazing partner in the journey and contributed more than I can say to my ministry – to who I am. The same could be said for my Mother, Rose Mary, sitting next to her on Sunday. She deserves much of the credit – an incredible model of faith and caring and love.

And so, I am ready as I can be for the next chapter. I still love what I have been privileged to do all these years. The “Rule of 72” is making me stop – at least in my beloved parish. But I think that is a good thing for me and for St. Luke’s. Frankly, I feel good in turning the “keys” over to Fr. Sean, the Priest-in-charge. He will be good for the parish and the parish for him. I look forward to meeting the new Rector when that time comes. I will be his or her greatest cheerleader from the sidelines.

So, this is another “last.” Best I can figure I have written over one thousand “From the Rector” columns. I will miss this weekly exercise – after I rest awhile. And, I will no longer post on St. Luke’s Facebook and website though I will be watching – perhaps “liking” from time to time. Remember that while I must keep my distance from the church, I will always be prayerfully present – and always open to an invitation to dinner – LOL!

See you Saturday and Sunday – and then around town. Know that you are loved.

Blessings,

Fr. Lee+

Weekly Activity Calendar

Sunday, January 29, 2017

8:00am Rite I
9:15am Sunday School Classes
10:30am Rite II

Monday, January 30, 2017

9:30am Church Staff Mtg.
5:30pm Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

10:00am Spiritual Discipline Group, library

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

6-8pm Young Disciples, RH
7:00pm Choir

Thursday, February 2, 2017

6:45am Men’s Fellowship, MH
12:00pm Holy Eucharist

Friday, February 3, 2017

Saturday, February 4, 2017

Sunday, February 5, 2017

“Souper” Bowl Sunday

8:00am Rite I
9:15am Sunday School Classes
10:30am Rite II

12:00pm All-Parish Potluck, MH

12:30pm Annual Mtg., MH

Monday, February 6, 2017

9:30am Church Staff Mtg.
5:30pm Holy Eucharist

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

February 5



Our Young Disciples will be collecting food and money for the

CONCERN Food Pantry on “Souper”

Bowl **Sunday, Feb. 5**. This is a nationwide program for youth organizations that collect non-perishable food and money for local food pantries. 100% of the food/money collected will go to CONCERN. Thank you for supporting our youth and the less fortunate in our community.

CRAFTING OUR PRAYERS

Crafting our Prayers will meet this Thursday (Jan. 26) at 10:00am in the Vestry Rm. Bring a handwork project to tell about and work on. We will share the news about our funds. If you need an idea to work on, two specific projects will be available. Need more information? Call Deacon Lauri Watkins at 918-766-2473. All are welcome.

ST. LUKE'S PRAYER LIST

Please keep them in your prayers
Names on the Prayer List are rotated off every 4 weeks. If there is need for continued prayers, please let us know.

Walter, Carmen, Paul, Marty, Jim, Mary Lou, Thelma, Peggy, Lynette, Rose, Jenny, Joseph, Trudi, Patty, David, Kristen, Elizabeth, Mary, Jeanne, Max, Emma, Helen, Cory and all members of our armed forces and their families.

If you have a prayer request, contact our Prayer Ministry Coordinator Thelma Blackburn 918-333-7902 or TPBGEN@aol.com or the church office at 918-336-1212 or annbell@episcopalbartlesville.org.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW RECTOR SEARCH PROCESS

We ask you to pray for the rector candidates, Search Committee, and Vestry during our mutual discernment process for our next rector.

Father,

It is time to find a new spiritual leader to guide us. We pray individually and together to further this search process. We know that you have already chosen a path for St Luke's. We pray earnestly for your guidance in seeking out Your plan for us.

We ask You to send the Holy Spirit to fill each of our hearts and minds, keep our arms wide open, and guide us to find the new Rector who will lead us on this path.

Father, we ask that You bless the hearts of our Rector candidates and each member of our parish family to ease this transition for them.

All this we ask through our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.



With Sympathy

Sincere sympathy and prayers to Dennis & Debbie Mueggenborg (396595 W. 2437 Rd., Bartlesville, OK 74006) on the death of Dennis' brother, Mike Mueggenborg, of Okarche, Oklahoma on Friday, January 20. Funeral services were Tuesday, January 24 in Okarche.

"THE DOOR" aka St. Luke's Bookstore



During February we will have a featured guest artist. "Anglican Rosaries" handmade by Natalie Connor.

Natalie has been making rosaries for about 6 years. She enjoys *creating one-of-a-kind rosary* with colorful stones and beads. They are on sale now in the Bookstore. If you are looking for a new spiritual discipline for the coming Lenten season, maybe this prayer form is for you. The Bookstore also carries books telling the history and how to pray with the Rosary.

TIME TO REGISTER FOR ST. CRISPIN'S SUMMER CAMP!

Enrollment is now OPEN for Summer Camp 2017 at St. Crispin's. Information and online enrollment are found at this link: <http://www.epiok.org/Diocesan%20Organizations/stcrispins.html>. Registration forms are also available in the church office.

Did you know that **those who attend camp as youth were over 3 times more likely to remain religiously affiliated** 5 years later than their peers who do not attend? This is just one compelling finding in a national study on youth and religion.

No child is ever turned away from St. Crispin's because of their financial situation. The Diocese is committed to getting kids to Camp and offers financial assistance. There is link to the Camper Scholarship form on the registration website.

Camper schedule (Grade based on 2017-2018 school year):

June 9th - 10th: ABC Camp (1st - 3rd graders, with parents)

June 11th - 17th: Senior High (10th grade - high school graduates)

June 18th - 24th: Intermediate Session 1 (4th - 6th graders)

June 25th - July 1st: Junior High Session 1 (7th - 9th graders)

July 2nd - 8th: All Ages (4th grade - high school graduates)

July 9th - 15th: Intermediate Session 2 (4th - 6th graders)

July 16th - 22nd: Junior High Session 2 (7th - 9th graders)

◆◆ St. Luke's Treasure Sale ◆◆

◆ 5th Edition ◆

February 17th & 18th, 2017



The excitement continues to grow as we prepare for
St. Luke's Treasure Sale.

Friday, Feb. 17th - 5 - 8 p.m.

Pre-View Sale & Silent Auction Enjoy hors d'oeuvres & beverages!

Tickets for Pre-View Sale go on sale Monday, January 30th

Call Becky Liehr 918-327-5987, Dolores McCreary 918-336-2197,

or the church office to reserve your tickets.

\$12 or \$15 at the door

On sale at church, Sunday, Feb. 5th

Saturday sale - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., no admission charge.

A visit to our 5th Edition Treasure Sale

is like a visit to a wonderful gift store/art gallery/antique display all in one!

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
210 East 9th Street
Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003

(Return Service Requested)

<http://www.episcopalbartlesville.org/>

The Rev. Dr. T. Lee Stephens, Rector (leestephens@episcopalbartlesville.org)

The Rev. Sean Ekberg, Assoc. to the Rector (seanekberg@gmail.com)

The Rev. Douglas Freebern, Deacon (dfreebern@yahoo.com)

The Rev. Lauri Watkins, Deacon (lwatkins@episcopalbartlesville.org)

The Rev. Mike Watkins, Deacon (mike.watkins@sbcglobal.net)

In an Emergency, call 918-397-3683, 580-977-4969, 918-766-2473 or 918-914-0525

Ann Bell, Parish Secretary (annbell@episcopalbartlesville.org)

Steve Forsythe, Parish Administrator (sforsythe@episcopalbartlesville.org)

Dolores McCreary, Organist/Choir Director (dolores@episcopalbartlesville.org)

Erin Perry, Christian Educ. Dir. (erinperry@episcopalbartlesville.org)

Kathy Zervas, Sr. Warden (kzerv@aol.com)

Amy Borg, Jr. Warden (amy.a.borg@p66.com)

Office Phone: 918-336-1212 Office Fax: 918-336-2557

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:00pm, Fridays 8:30am-3:00pm

Holy Eucharist: Sunday 8am & 10:30am; Monday 5:30pm, Thursday 12pm

"The Steeple" is a weekly publication of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 210 SE 9th St., Bartlesville, OK 74003

LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE 1/29/17 through 2/5/17

Volunteers: Please make your own substitutions.

Acolytes

Sunday, Jan. 29

No Acolytes scheduled

Sunday, Feb. 5

Servers

Harald Borg, Robert Boyle

Torchbearers

Kimaya Kindred, Emma Perry

Scripture Lessons for

Sunday, Jan. 29

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15;

1 Corinthians 1:18-31;

Matthew 5:1-12

Music for Sunday, Jan. 29

#423 – "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

GATHER #291 – "Here I Am, Lord"

GATHER #346 – "One, Bread, One Body"

GATHER #285 – "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

#347 (text) – "Go Forth for God"

Greeters

Sunday, Jan. 29

8:00am

Gretchen Hoyt

10:30am

Becky & Jim Liehr

Carol Murphy

Sunday, Feb. 5

8:00am

Don Davidson

10:30am

Glenn & Thelma Blackburn

Ushers

Sunday, Jan. 29

8:00am

Don Davidson, Dean Zervas

10:30am

Jeff Birk, Travis Perry

Sunday, Feb. 5

8:00am

Steve Forsythe, Dean Zervas

10:30am

Hugh Harrison, Tim Simmons

Layreaders

Sunday, Jan. 29

8:00am

Kate Carroll, Scott Williams

10:30am

Juanita Green, Judy Currey

Nick Conner, Penny Williams

Sunday, Feb. 5

8:00am

Scott Williams, Kate Carroll

10:30am

Penny Williams, Lauren Green

Bob Wesneski, Nick Conner

Coffee Fellowship Hour

Jan. 29

Fr. Lee's Last Sunday, refreshments provided

Feb. 5

Annual Mtg. Potluck

Feb. 12

Volunteer needed

To volunteer, contact Rita Childers, 918-519-8470 or

puvey45@gmail.com

St. Luke's Bookstore

The Bookstore is open Sundays between the two services and after the 10:30 service. All proceeds from sales go to St. Luke's Outreach Projects.

***To volunteer, contact** Melinda Wesneski, 918-333-7758 or mcwesne@gmail.com.

Children's Chapel

Jan. 29

No Chapel Today

Feb. 5

Heather Boyle, Bob Tedstrom

Feb. 12

Jeanne Julstrom, Travis Sutton

Agape Mission

2nd Thursday, Jan. 26

9-11am

Jim Liehr, Fr. Lee Stephens

10:45am-1pm

Jeff Birk, Molly Ferguson,

Glenda Garrison, Darian Kedy,

Jen Peterson

1:00-2:45pm

Carol Murphy, Radomir Petrovich

Nursery Volunteers

Jan. 29

Travis Sutton

Feb. 5

Travis Sutton

Feb. 12

Natalie Conner

Sunday Plate Counter

Jan. 29

Jim Grillot

Feb. 5

Amy Borg

Feb. 12

Bruce Ramzel

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have articles that you would like printed in *The Steeple* to the church office no later than *Tuesdays at 10am*.
Thank you!

Bereavement Committee

Team 3

Wendy Hall, Connie Freebern,

Glenda Garrison, Gretchen Hoyt,

Becky Liehr, Carol Murphy